

**Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**  
**June 24, 2005**

The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice met Friday, June 24, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at Patrick's Restaurant, York, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was published June 15, 2005 in the Lincoln Journal Star.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Tom McBride, Chairperson of the NCJJ.

**II. Roll Call**

**Members present:** Michael Behm, Linda Benjamin, Tom Dorwart, Lawrence Gendler, Kylee Hoffmaster (arrived 10:10), Ron Johns, Thomas McBride, Kay McMinn, Justin Mickles (arrived 10:30), Mark Montgomery, Tim O'Dea, Gerard Piccolo, and Todd Reckling. **Members excused:** James Blue, Austin Brockmeier, Chris Connolly, Frank Jenson, Audra Liebig, Elaine Menzel, Kathy Moore, Nancy Oats, Danielle Reinke, Gerald Ruiz, Terry Medina, Tanya Terry, and Jerry Watson. **Members absent:** Charles Brewster, John Clark, Myles Davis. **Staff present:** Eli McBride, Monica Miles-Steffens, Nancy Steeves, and Stephanie Vensky.

McBride introduced Michael Behm as the new director of the Crime Commission and welcomed him to the Coalition. Everyone was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and the agency they represent.

**III. Approval of March 18, 2005 Minutes**

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Gendler and seconded by O'Dea to approve the March 18, 2005 meeting minutes. (Motion carried unanimously.)***

#### **IV. Crime Commission Report**

##### **a. OJJDP site visit**

Miles-Steffens reported the federal representative from OJJDP is scheduled to be in Lincoln the week of August 8<sup>th</sup>. She said he will want to look at a program from each of the funding sources, tour several facilities and meet with Tom and anyone else from the Coalition who might be available.

##### **b. Grant Management training**

Miles-Steffens reported grant management training was held June 14<sup>th</sup> for all new sub-grantee's. She stated the Grant Activity Summary Report has changed due to new federal performance measure requirements, therefore sub-grantee's will not be reporting on the goals and objectives as stated in their grant application. However, sub-grantee's will be required to report on the new evaluation section in the grant application. This should help provide better quality and standardized data about the programs.

##### **c. Site Visit with Cedars and GLW wraparound programs**

Miles-Steffens reported one of the contingencies given at the time of funding to Cedars and Garfield, Loop, and Wheeler Counties was to meet with the Crime Commission staff to show how they would work together to provide services in the central part of the state. Kay McMinn attended the meeting representing Region III as well as the Coalition and James Blue, the director of Cedars also attended. Miles-Steffens stated the meeting was productive and they discussed positive ways to foster communication between the programs. They are required to report on this in their quarterly reports and the Crime Commission will be monitoring those reports because future funding is contingent upon them working together.

##### **d. OJJDP training/conference January 9-13, 2006**

OJJDP is hosting a national training set for January 9-13 in Washington D.C. Miles-Steffens noted travel arrangements for this training will be discussed at the September meeting.

e. Miles-Steffens informed the group that Grant Writing Training is being held in Kearney, July 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> if anyone is interested in attending.

#### **V. Sub-Committee Reports**

##### **a. Executive: Meeting with Gov.; Three Year Planning; Member training; FAC report**

McBride stated the Executive Committee met with the Governor in May to present the NCJJ annual report. It is a requirement of the federal funds to present this report to the Governor and the Legislature. He said it was a very well written report and identified things the Coalition has been progressive in doing. McBride stated those who attended the meeting were disappointed in the attention that was given by the Governor and he said he would like to do some follow up now that the legislative session is over. Behm offered to meet with the Governor along with McBride before the next Coalition meeting.

McBride reported the Three Year Plan is due in March. Two meetings have been held addressing the three year plan and a process has been identified, which is a model set up by Hank Robinson of UNO. McBride said subsequent meetings have been identified and extended an invitation to the entire group different to ensure representation of topical issues and geographic areas. Meetings are set for July and August. Reckling showed interest in being on the Three Year Planning committee.

McBride reminded everyone the member training is set for the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and stated that it would be a longer meeting.

McBride distributed a copy of the Federal Advisory Committee Report that goes to the President and Congress. He said the report is a good, accurate report on the state of juvenile justice issues in the nation and believed there was information that our state could benefit from.

**b. DMC: Resignation of TJ; Resignation of Anne; Training at Magellen/Juv. Judges**

Miles-Steffens reported there has been a lot of transition with the DMC committee. TJ McDowell regrettably resigned from the Coalition. She said TJ enjoyed his time on the Coalition however, with his job change he was unable to give 100% to the committee. Therefore, the DMC committee chair position is open. Anne Hobbs, the DMC Coordinator, has also resigned and taken a position as Director of the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission. She said Anne would remain on the DMC committee and help train a new coordinator. It is hoped a new coordinator will be on board by mid July.

Miles-Steffens stated since the last meeting she and Anne have conducted several trainings, one for Magellen and at the Juvenile Judges meeting. She thanked Judge Gendler for assisting in getting the topic on the Juvenile Judges agenda and the feedback on the training was positive. The committee has decided to get away from the large group trainings and focus on personnel in the different juvenile justice system points.

McBride made everyone aware that there will be positions opening on the Coalition as members terms expire.

**c. Grant Review**

Piccolo reported the Grant Review Committee met on May 20<sup>th</sup> to give comments and recommendation on Title V & JABG grants.

Mickles arrived 10:30.

**d. Youth: Youth Retreat**

Benjamin stated it has been difficult to get the youth members together. She said an email was sent to all the youth members asking what weekend dates would work for them in July or August and hopes to get them all together soon.

**VI. Approve payment of lunch**

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by O'Dea to approve funds to provide lunch. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, Piccolo, and Reckling. Dorwart, and Gendler abstained. (Motion carried).***

**VII. Report on LB193 transition and County Planning**

Miles-Steffens gave a brief overview of LB193, which transfers the County Juvenile Service Aid Program from HHS/OJS to the Crime Commission effective July 1, 2005. She stated a three year plan is required in order to apply for County Aid funds. Many counties three year plans are due for a new planning cycle but, due to the time frame of this transition, updated plans are not being required for the 2005 application. A nearly completed updated planning format will be offered to counties as well as training to interested counties/coalitions. She gave a brief explanation of the application process, award process, disbursement process, and the applicants requirements for submitting quarterly reports. She said grant management training would be held sometime in August to provide training on financial and activity reports.

Judge Dorwart asked if counties could go together and apply. Miles-Steffens said counties could do one plan and then access the county aide dollars separately or they can go together and do a plan and then pool the dollars together.

**VIII. Approval of JABG grants**

Piccolo stated the summary comment sheets were provided in the mail-out with staff/grant review comments and recommendations.

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by Benjamin to approve the 2004 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds as recommended in the summary comment sheets. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Dorwart, Gendler (abstained 600), Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, and Piccolo. Reckling abstained. (Motion carried).***

**Approve:**

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04-JA-600	Sarpy County (Sarpy Co. Juvenile Drug Treatment Court) (\$43,704)	\$19,504
04-JA-601	Nebraska Crime Commission (Statewide Juvenile Data Sharing) (\$0)	\$223,462

**04-JA-602 Lancaster County  
(Alternatives with Accountability) (\$188,887)**

**\$71,360**

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**04-JA-603 City of Omaha  
(City of Omaha/Douglas Co. Juv. Accountability  
Block Grant Phase 7) (\$450,936)**

**\$127,994**

**IX. Approval of Title V grants**

Miles-Steffens said this year the focus for Title V grants was toward DMC. She noted the DMC Committee sat in on the staff/grant review and the summary comment sheets were provided in the mail-out.

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by Johns to approve the 2004 Title V grant funds as recommended in the summary comment sheets. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Dorwart, Gendler, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, Piccolo, and Reckling.. (Motion carried).***

**Approve:**

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<b>04-JP-30</b>	<b>Dawes County Juvenile Services (Circle of Courage) (\$0)</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
<b>04-JP-31</b>	<b>Buffalo County (Buffalo Co. Interpretation and Translation Project) (\$0)</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>04-JP-33</b>	<b>Lancaster County (DEFY Drug Education for Youth) (\$0)</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

**Deny:**

**04-JP-32 CASA for Lancaster County  
(CASA Coordinator Diversification and Outreach) (\$0)**

**X. Approval of JABG interest technology grants**

Eli reported twelve applications were received. Counties were eligible for up to \$2,000 for computer hardware/software updates, that would allow them to access the diversion case management system. He stated \$50,000 had been set aside hoping for more applicants than actually applied, which means turning back a little over \$29,000 in JABG interest funds to OJJDP.

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by Johns to approve the 2002 JABG Interest Technology Grants with any contingencies. Voting in favor of the motion:***

*Behm, Benjamin, Dorwart, Gendler (abstain 653), Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, Piccolo (abstain 657). Reckling abstained (Motion carried).*

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**Approve:**

2005 JABG Interest Technology Grants		
<b>02-JA-650</b>	<b>Frontier County</b>	<b>\$1,916.00</b>
<b>02-JA-651</b>	<b>Howard County</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>02-JA-652</b>	<b>Thurston County</b>	<b>\$1,298.00</b>
<b>02-JA-653</b>	<b>Sarpy County</b>	<b>\$1,828.00</b>
<b>02-JA-654</b>	<b>Adams &amp; Clay Counties</b>	<b>\$1,340.00</b>
<b>02-JA-655</b>	<b>Buffalo County</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>02-JA-656</b>	<b>Saunders County Youth Service System</b>	<b>\$1,796.00</b>
<b>02-JA-657</b>	<b>Hall County</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>02-JA-658</b>	<b>Washington County</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>02-JA-659</b>	<b>Johnson County</b>	<b>\$1,271.00</b>
<b>02-JA-660</b>	<b>Pawnee County</b>	<b>\$1,271.00</b>
<b>02-JA-661</b>	<b>Platte County</b>	<b>\$1,637.00</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$20,357.00</b>

**XI. Approval of 2005 County Aid Applications**

Miles-Steffens reported 38 applications were received and 3 applications cover more than one county. She said some counties applied for less than what was allocated and some applied for more. The counties that applied for less will be approved for the full amount allotted and the counties that requested more will only be awarded what they are eligible for. Because of the quick turnaround, some of the counties were unable to meet with either their county board or county commissioner to get proper signatures, therefore that will be one of the contingencies for these grants is that the authorized official sign the application. She said most of the programming is focused toward diversion, after school programming, and mentoring.

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by O'Dea to approve 2005 County Aid grant applications at the allotted amount. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Dorwart (abstain 507, 512, 522, 523, 524), Gendler (abstain 535), Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, Piccolo (abstain 500), and Reckling. (Motion carried).***

**XII. Approve Travel to: CJJ regional conference – Boise, ID July 14-16**

Miles-Steffens asked if any one was interested in going to the conference she would need to know as soon as possible because registration deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion**

***A motion was made by Piccolo and seconded by Behm to approve 3 people up to \$1,200 each to attend the CJJ conference in Boise, ID July 14-16. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Gendler, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, Piccolo, and Reckling. Dorwart abstained. (Motion carried).***

**XIII. Report on Project Extra Mile – Kylee Hoffmaster**

Hoffmaster stated she has been on the board of Project Extra Mile in Dawson County for about 3 years. She gave an overview of Project Extra Mile and its focus on youth and underage drinking. She provided some statistics on youth violence, traffic accidents, and property damage as a result of youth under the influence of alcohol. Discussion was held on efforts being taken to prevent underage drinking.

**XIV. Report on CWLA and NJJA conferences**

Benjamin stated she attended the NJJA conference held in Grand Island. She said it was her first NJJA conference and was amazed how many service providers were there. She said overall it was a good conference. Miles-Steffens & Eli McBride also attended the NJJA conference. Miles-Steffens reported about 185 participants were in attendance this year, which was down a little from last year.

McMinn reported on the CWLA conference held in Miami. She said she focused on child welfare, integration system, and mentoring sessions. She said a lot of good information.

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Miles-Steffens noted overall it was a good quality conference and had good speakers/presentations.

The meeting broke briefly at 12:00 to distribute lunches and resumed at 12:20.

#### **XV. Report on progress of LB259 work group**

McBride reported this was a legislative bill that came thru Senator Dwite Pedersen and the Health and Human Services Committee. The bill requires the development of a work group to create a report recommending training requirements for youth care workers employed by agencies licensed by HHS. He said the group has had one meeting with regard to LB259 with meetings scheduled for July and August. The final report of the work group needs to be back to the legislature by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **XVI. Discussion on 03 JABG interest proposals**

Miles-Steffens reported on the \$128,000 in 03 JABG interest money that expires in May of 2006. She presented on two proposals. The first proposal was for ongoing support of the Juvenile Justice Institute for the diversion case management system and the second to Cedars Youth Services for their diversion technical assistance project. After those two proposals, approximately \$100,000 remains to be allocated. She briefly discussed that the previous JABG state plans had helped school intervention workers. She stated that Todd Reckling from OJS had expressed interest in presenting a proposal that interest funds be used to help support this program for one more year until long term funding could be secured.

Reckling gave a brief overview of the purpose of a school intervention worker and what the program would provide. He said the goal for the program is to provide adjudicated youth who are having difficulty succeeding in regular community supervision, a structured intermediate sanction program within the school setting in place of institutional revocation or more restrictive placement. The purpose of the school intervention worker is to act as a liaison between the youth, family, school and the Probation Officer and/or Protection & Safety Worker as well as supervising referred youth who are in need of additional academic support and monitoring.

Reckling stated there are currently 5 locations in Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington, and North Platte. The annual cost is \$32,400 per program. He said the programs do not only serve OJS youth, but a big percentage of youth served are Probation youth. Discussion was held on the aspect of sustainability and the need for the program.

#### **Motion**

***A motion was made by Gendler and seconded by O'Dea to fund the Diversion Case Management Support and the Diversion TA project and the remaining the remaining balance to fund the School Intervention Program with the contingency all 5 sites stay viable. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Benjamin, Dorwart, Gendler,***



*Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Mickles, Montgomery, O'Dea, and Piccolo. Reckling abstained. (Motion carried).*

**XVII. Public Comment**

None

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**XVIII. New Business/Future Agenda Items:**

Next meeting will be September 16<sup>th</sup> with training.

**XIX. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45. Epworth Village tours were provided.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Vensky  
Staff Support